

Applicant: Jarmo Kirvesmäki et al.
Application No.: 10/598,417
Response to Office action mailed Nov. 21, 2008
Amendment Filed November 26, 2008

Claim Listing

1–19. (canceled)

20. (original) A method for ensuring the straightness of a vane for a headbox of a paper machine comprising the steps of:

moistening the vane to a selected moisture content followed by;
enclosing the moistened vane in a vapor-proof package.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of manufacturing at least part of the vane of a water-absorbing material.

22. (original) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of manufacturing at least part of the vane of a water-absorbing plastic material.

23. (original) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of manufacturing at least part of the vane of a water-absorbing, composite material.

24. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the selected moisture content corresponds to the vane equilibrium moisture content in headbox conditions.

25. (original) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of keeping the vane in the package until the vane is put into use.

26. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of enclosing the moistened vane in the vapor-proof package includes drawing and retaining a vacuum in the package.

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27. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of moistening the vane is preformed in connection with a step of manufacturing the vane.

28. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of moistening comprises keeping the vane in a steam atmosphere until the vane's moisture content reaches the selected ~~[[level]]~~ moisture content.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the step of moistening the vane comprises keeping the vane in a hot water bath until the vane's selected moisture content is reached ~~reaches the selected level~~.

30. (original) A method for ensuring the straightness of a vane for a headbox of a paper machine comprising the steps of:
manufacturing the vane at least in part of a water-absorbing material;
moistening the vane to a selected moisture content followed by;
enclosing the moistened vane in a vapor-proof package;
providing a vacuum to the vapor-proof package and closing the package air-tightly;
transporting the vane in the package while retaining the selected moisture content; and
before using the vane checking to see if the vacuum package remains unbroken, and if the vacuum package remains unbroken installing the vane in a headbox.

31. (original) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of moistening the vane to a selected moisture content is preformed by storing the vane in a steam chamber where the vane is subjected to steam until the selected moisture content is reached.

32. (original) The method of claim 30 where in the step of moistening the vane to a selected moisture content is preformed by immersing the vane in water of a selected temperature until the selected moisture content is reached.